



## **INDEPENDENT CITIZENS MOVEMENT PARTY PRINCIPLES**

**Members must be united in the belief of these principles.**

### **Principle # 1: Unity**

We must strive to develop unity in all areas of our lives -the family, the community, the territory, as well as the philosophy and policies that govern the party.

### **Principle # 2: Work and Responsibility**

The development of our society and the responsibility for its progress must be shared by all the members of our society.

### **Principle # 3: Economic Development**

Our economy must emphasize local ownership in all areas of economic activity and reflect the interests, talents and needs of the local population. The development of the public sector must be coordinated with and attuned to the growth and development of the private sector. Short of restricting private investment, available land resources and capital must be invested in projects collectively owned/managed by locals. Partnership, joint projects, and cooperative ventures between outside investors and local residents must be encouraged and promoted.

#### **Principle # 4: Self Determination**

The people of the U.S. Virgin Islands have a right to choose their own destiny. This includes, but is not limited to, their own constitution and laws regulating the relationship with their neighbors in the areas of trade, culture, and technology.

#### **Principle # 5: Truth**

Truth must be the cornerstone of our political system. Representatives of the people must be truthful in all matters regarding their representation of, and reporting to the people.

#### **Principle # 6: Culture and Island Pride**

Our culture is the essence of our society and, as such must be promoted and preserved at all cost. In addition, we must strive to keep our islands as beautiful and pristine as we inherited them, striking a delicate balance between development and preservation.

#### **Principle # 7: Government**

The primary goal of Government must be to empower our people economically, socially, and politically. Furthermore, the most important vehicle for effecting change is the full participation of the people in the political process. Reciprocally, government cannot remain a neutral entity in the face of our people's suffering. Rather, it must be an aggressive force in the economic, social and political empowerment of our people.

#### **Principle # 8: Leadership**

Our leaders must be honest, have confidence in the people, believe in and commit to the development of the full potential of all U.S. Virgin Islanders. Further, it is the responsibility of our leaders to give the highest priority to the protection, development, maintenance and production of publicly-owned enterprises and facilities.

### **Principle # 9: Human Resources**

Our elders are the gems of our society, and we must continuously find ways to utilize their talents and expertise, as well as ensure that they are cared for in their senior years. Similarly, our young people are the hope and solution for the many problems confronting our society. Government must, therefore, increase its efforts to educate, employ, and develop their leadership potential and skills.

### **Principle # 10: Education**

Education must be based on our society's needs and the talents of our people to ensure our economic, political and social growth.

### **Principle # 11: Spirituality**

We must make a direct connection between our spiritual development, moral responsibility and the social conditions of our people. Hence, every material act must be viewed as a spiritual act as well.

### **Principle # 12: Caribbean Relations**

The issues confronting the U.S. Virgin Islands are the same as the issues of the entire Caribbean. We share a common, but diverse, history, culture, language as well as a common future. It must be understood that the problems and solutions are common. We must use the resources of the region to improve the quality of life for all.